



## **COLLEGE STATION POLICE DEPARTMENT INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Scott McCollum, Police Chief

*Reviewed / Approved  
S. Moore  
8/20/18*

**FROM:** Thomas Brown, Lieutenant *TJB 346*

**REF:** Professional Standards – 2017 Use of Force Analysis

**DATE:** August 17, 2018

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### **STATEMENT OF ISSUE:**

The College Station Police Department policy manual requires an annual analysis of all use of force reports be conducted and presented to the Chief of Police.

### **BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:**

The use of force by law enforcement personnel is an area of paramount concern to not only the community but law enforcement agencies. An employee's use of force must always be reasonable and necessary under the circumstances that exist and should be no greater than the least amount of force necessary to accomplish the law enforcement objective. With that in mind, the department has established policy to provide guidelines with *Chapter 42 –Use of Force* of the policy manual.

The policy includes definitions, general provisions, options of force, deadly force, training, Use of Force report, death or serious physical injury caused by employees and records. The policy was reviewed in the fall of 2017 and a revision was published on January 9, 2018.

The reporting guidelines of policy requires an employee to complete a Use of Force report before the end of the shift or as soon as possible when an employee takes any action that results in or is alleged to have resulted in injury or death to another person, uses hard empty hand control, points a firearm or Taser at any person, uses a chemical irritant, uses an impact weapon, discharges a firearm or uses a diversionary device. Each form should contain a narrative or attached report to describe the employee's actions. The UOF report and related materials will be routed for review through the chain of command to the Bureau Chief. If it is determined

during the chain of command review that improper procedure occurred appropriate action will be initiated.

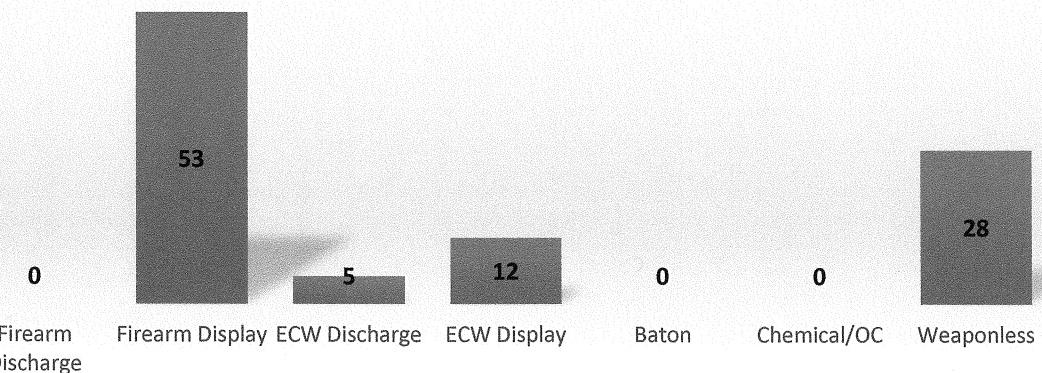
The College Station Police Department has a well-established accreditation status with CALEA which demonstrates the department's commitment to best practices and ensures it is complying with nationally recognized standards for excellence. I reviewed *CALEA Law Enforcement Standard 1.3 Use of Force* to ensure our policy reflects our practice.

### **2017 College Station Police Department Use of Force Analysis**

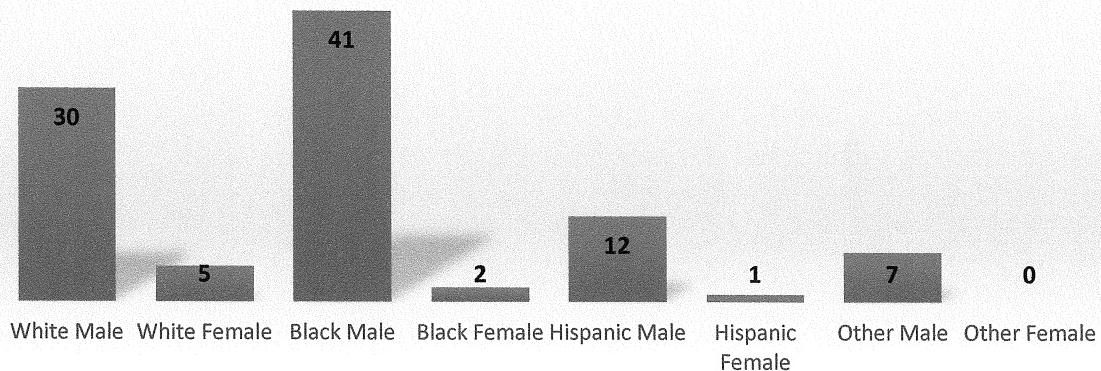
I conducted an analysis of the department's 70 Use of Force reports which were completed in 2017. 134 officers and 89 citizens were involved in these incidents. I reviewed data from all of the reports and produced the following statistical table using CALEA standards.

2017 CALEA Use of Force Statistical Table									
	White Male	White Female	Black Male	Black Female	Hispanic Male	Hispanic Female	Other Male	Other Female	Total
Firearm									
Discharge	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Display	15	3	23	0	10	0	2	0	53
ECW									
Discharge	3	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	5
Display	4	0	7	0	0	0	1	0	12
Baton	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chemical/OC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Weaponless	8	2	10	2	2	1	3	0	28
Canine									
Release	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Release and Bite	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Uses of Force	30	5	41	2	12	1	7	0	98
Total Number of Suspects Receiving Non-Fatal Injuries	8	2	9	2	1	1	3	0	26
Total Number of Suspects Receiving Fatal Injuries	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Number of Incidents Resulting in Officer Injury or Death	1	2	4	2	0	0	1	0	10
Total Use of Force Arrests	19	4	21	3	11	1	3	0	62
Total Use of Force Complaints	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1

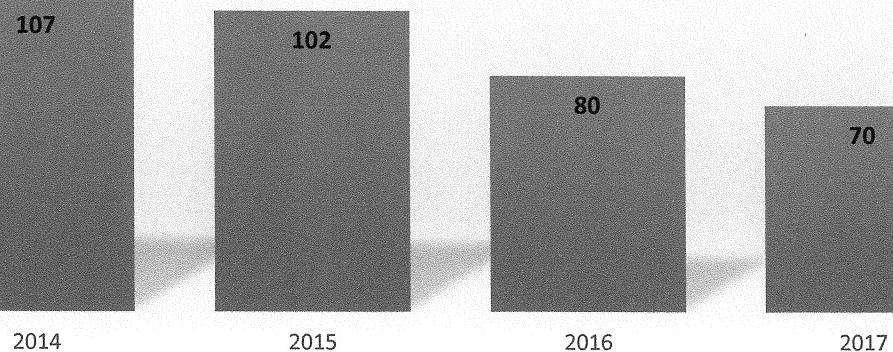
## 2017 Use of Force by Type



## 2017 Use of Force by Race and Gender



## 2014 - 2017 Use of Force Report Comparison



### Use of Force Report Reviews

All of the Use of Force Report reviews were classified by the chain of command as justified or appropriate. The reviews did find areas for the employee to improve their performance such as using tethers on Taser Body Wear Cameras to keep them attached, the need to improve communication in reference to a use of force plan and to stop using 'excited utterances' or foul language while deploying force.

### Injuries

26 suspects and 10 officers were injured during these UOF incidents. All of the injuries were considered minor and when someone was taken to the hospital they were treated and released.

### Complaints

The department received one external complaint for excessive use of force which was closed 'unfounded' after the investigation and chain of command review.

### Counseling/Discipline

Three of the Use of Force reports documented the negligent discharge of an employee's Taser. Nobody was injured in these occurrences and all three employees received counseling.

### Additional

I reviewed all of the ancillary use of force data to include location, month, day of the week, time of day and age and didn't find any patterns or trends in the data which required further scrutiny. The department has added two canine officers in 2018 and they will be in-service in the fall.

### **CONCLUSION:**

After analyzing all of the Use of Force reports, I didn't find anything to indicate a modification is needed to training or policy. I found the department's policy includes all of the standards recommended by CALEA.

The oversight provided by the mandatory review of each use of force incident is essential to ensure officers involved are able to reevaluate their decisions and techniques outside the heat of the moment and therefore be better prepared for future occurrences.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

I will complete the next annual analysis of Use of Force reports in early 2019.